

**Kalamazoo Public Library
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION**

DATE: February 28, 2011
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Central Library
Board Room
315 South Rose Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Roll Call: All Trustees were present: Cynthia Addison, Fenner Brown, Robert Brown, Lisa Godfrey, Cheryl TenBrink, James Vander Roest and Valerie Wright.

Call to order: President Godfrey called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as written.

I. RECOGNITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, COMMUNICATIONS

There were no recognitions, resolutions or communications.

II. PERSONS REQUESTING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one addressed the board.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 24, 2011

B. Personnel Items

New Hire

Angelina Rodriguez joined the library staff in the position of bilingual Library Assistant 3 FTE 1.0 assigned to the Washington Square and Eastwood branches effective February 16, 2011. Ms. Rodriguez was formerly employed as a certified Peer Support Specialist at Interact of Michigan.

Schedule Reduction

Christine Hann's request to reduce from 1.0 FTE to .75 FTE was approved and became effective February 1, 2011. Christine currently holds the position of Government Document Specialist in Adult Services department.

Note: As approved by the board in January, the remaining .25 will be combined with .25 time from a .75 supervisory-technical position moved from Patron Services to Adult Services, and reclassified to library associate, which will result in a .5 time library associate position to be advertised and filled.

Disposition: The board accepted the Minutes of the Meeting of January 24, 2011 and the personnel items as presented.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Financial Reports for the Period Ending January 31, 2011

Recommendation: **A. Rohrbaugh recommended the board accept the Financial Reports for the Period Ending January 31, 2011 as presented.**

Executive
Summary:

All personnel are now paid on a semi-monthly basis. Historically the pay periods and pay dates have been different for salaried and non-salaried personnel. Although it has been a big project, with the recent change to an electronic time card system we have been able to move everyone to the same schedule. The rest of the written reports are self-explanatory and are as expected at this point in the fiscal year.

MOTION: **R. BROWN MOVED AND C. ADDISON SUPPORTED THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 2011.**



Motion carried 7-0.

V. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ACTION ITEMS: None.

REPORTS:

A. Legislative Update

Presentation: Director Rohrbaugh reviewed legislation that has been introduced at the state level that could potentially affect the library if enacted, including possible modification or repeal of personal property taxes, prohibition of strikes by public employees and wage/benefit freezes during contract negotiations, limitation of employer's portion of employee health insurance costs, school (includes libraries) election calendar, "repeal/elimination/modification of Michigan Business Tax Act," voter registration via Secretary of State website and municipal "partnership" act; provision for municipal joint endeavors. Michigan Library Association is tracking developments on these issues and will be lobbying legislators on behalf of libraries as appropriate.

Discussion: Trustees indicated they would also like to contact legislators on a concerted basis if and when it is appropriate and asked the director to see if the MLA director or someone she might suggest could come and speak to the board about legislation and steps to take to be heard at the state level.

Disposition: The director will keep trustees updated on pending legislation and will contact the MLA director. Now is a good time for trustees and other interested parties to contact their elected representatives.

B. Overdrive Service

Presentation: **Jennifer Cornell**, training coordinator, provided an overview of the Overdrive Service for downloading e-books and audio titles, and answered a number of questions from trustees.

Disposition: Trustees were pleased to learn more about this service.

C. Teen Filmmaker Festival

Presentation: **Stewart Fritz**, teen lead librarian, reported that approximately 500 teens and adults attended the Teen Filmmaker Festival held February 27. This was the first year for the Fest to be held

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at the Rave Cityplace 14 Theater in downtown Kalamazoo; by all accounts it was a great success.

Early in February, a panel of representatives from KPL, KIA, Public Media, and local film studio Campaign Pictures juried 107 entries submitted by teens from across the entire state. This is by far the most films yet received by the Festival, no doubt due in part to greatly increased media coverage. We were excited to learn that due to the increased exposure, a representative of filmmaker Michael Moore invited us to submit the winning films which will be automatically entered into the Traverse City Film Festival.

The majority of films were from the Kalamazoo County area, although there were a number submitted from other communities, including Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, Dexter, Howell, Pottersville, and Detroit among others.

Seven winners were chosen in as many categories. Their films, most just a few minutes long and none over ten minutes, have been posted on KPL's website along with the full list of entries and will also be aired on Public Media Network.

Disposition: Trustees appreciated the report and were very pleased to hear the Fest continues to grow in popularity and reputation.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Budget Committee

J. Vander Roest: No report

Personnel Committee

V. Wright: No report

Building Committee

A. Rohrbaugh: No report

Fund Development Committee

L. Godfrey: No report

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Director's Report

Presentation: The director highlighted several of the written items from her report and answered questions about others. She provided an oral update on three items that were not included in the written report: 1) Reading Together program; 2) She expects to bring a recommendation to the board regarding establishment of a Planning & Design Task Force to explore the possibility of following the Crossroads Antiracist Training and Organizing model to develop an anti-racism team at KPL, and 3) It has been announced the long anticipated housing development behind Washington Square Branch library will have a first round of four houses built, with two expected to be completed in June – very good news for the neighborhood. Trustees had comments on several of the written items.

VIII. PERSONS REQUESTING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one addressed the board.

IX. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

J. Vander Roest spoke of a customer service concern from a patron; he and the patron were pleased with the speedy resolution after it was brought to the director's attention. He also

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expressed his dismay at the recent closing of Troy Public Library; it is a disgrace that a municipality of that size will not have a public library. Support for their public library from Kalamazoo citizens and officials is especially valued. Finally, he said he found the recent Urban Library Council webinar on the role of trustees valuable and is pleased we are members of ULC. He noted vendors sponsor the webinars; the director said we thank them for their support.

F. Brown said he is looking forward to the upcoming “Fine Forgiveness” program.

C. TenBrink is looking forward to the Tracy Kidder reception and program on March 30.

V. Wright spoke about the ULC webinar – the two she has attended were beneficial and have had good take-aways. One take-away from the most recent session was recognizing the value of accumulating library patron “stories” to make our statistics come alive, especially in advance of a millage vote. R. Brown suggested videos of “stories” might be aired on our TV monitors.

L. Godfrey said she had a conversation with the director about advocacy following the webinar. Interestingly “Create Your Story” is the theme of National Library Week; it is the plan to make the patron story project a priority.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, President Godfrey adjourned the meeting of the Kalamazoo Public Library Board of Trustees at 5:23 p.m.

Fenner Brown, Secretary